

Mr. Joseph Pierce, Regional Manager Environmental Improvement Agency Regions I and II 4159 Montgomery, N.E. Albuquerque, NM 87109

Dear Joa:

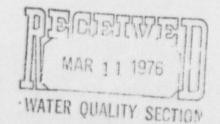
On February 24, 1976 Pat Olaechea and I inspected the Kerr McGee Corporation water supply. We talked to Bill Young, Al Phieger, and Larry Jim, employees of Kerr McGee.

This water system serves the mine employees only. The water is hauled from a windmill at an abandoned mine approximately two or three miles away. The water is stored in and served from ten gallon coolers. No treatment or disinfection is used. No bacteriological tests are made. Signs are posted warning that mine water used for showers, etc. are not to be consumed. By the first week of March, 1976 this water system is to be discontinued. Because of this no samples were taken.

The new system will consist of:

- Mine water discharge Source.
- Flocculation ponds, filtration, chlorination, and softening (in that order) - Treatment.
- Elevated storage tank Storage.

The new system will also serve as a watering point for area residents.



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Recommendations:

- 1. Test kit for free chlorine residual.
- 2. Daily chlorine residual tests.
- 3. Daily records of water flow, chlorine residual, chlorine usage.
- Monthly bacteriological sample submitted to the Environmental Improvement Agency Laboratory.
- Test treated water (Complete chemical, arsenic, selenium, other heavy metals, and radiological).

Operator Certification:

The water system operators are in need of training concerning water quality, treatment, storage, distribution, safety, records, disinfection, operation, and the law. Recommendations were discussed with operators.

Sincerely,

Felix Schmitt

Felix Schmidt, Environmentalist

CC: Richard Mitzelfelt, Environmental Supervisor Pat Olaechea, Water Quality Division Bill Young, Kerr McGee Corporation File